

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAЕ-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 PA-01 PRS-01

IO-11 /101 W

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R 250513Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9059

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, TH

SUBJECT: POL PRICES IN BANGKOK

REF: BANGKOK 4028

1. BANGKOK NEWSPAPERS FEB 24-25 REPORTED HOSTILE REACTION OF SERVICE STATION OPERATORS TO WHOLESALE PRICE INCREASE PASSED ALONG BY PETROLEUM MARKETING COMPANIES. BANGKOK "POST" REPORTED TEN CALTEX STATIONS CLOSED FEB 24, AND PREDICTED MANY OTHERS WILL FOLLOW SUITE RATHER THAN ABSORB WHOLESALE PRICE INCREASES. THE OIL TRADERS ASSOCIATION HAS APPEALED TO THE GOVERNMENT TO IMPOSE CONTROLS ON WHOLESALE PRICES, AS IT DOES ON RETAIL PRICES.

2. MARKETING FIRMS AND GOVERNMENT APPEAR TO BE HOLDING FIRM TO POSITIONS ALREADY STAKED OUT (REFTEL), AND PRESUMABLY ARE HOPING THAT RETAIL DEALER RESISTANCE WILL WITHER AWAY. (DIESEL FUEL, ONE OF THE MAIN PRODUCTS AT ISSUE, HAS FOR SOME TIME BEEN IN SHORT SUPPLY, SO MARKETING FIRMS ARE NOT RPT NOT RELUCTANT TO SEE SHORT-TERM REDUCTION IN DEMAND.)

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3. MARKETING FIRMS, LED BY CALTEX, APPEAR DETERMINED TO

RECOVER AT LEAST 1.5 STANG OF THREE-STANG PER LITER PRICE
GAP FROM DEALERS, FROM CONSUMERS, OR FROM RTG, THE CHOICE
BEING LEFT TO THE CABINET.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Draft Date: 25 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
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